Buried G, S, and T residues and exposed H, Y, and W residues were ignored. These residues are indicated in the figure by lower case letters.

On page 30, please replace the paragraph spanning lines 19-37 with the following:

Amino acid sequence changes are made in zvegf3 polypeptides so as to minimize disruption of higher order structure essential to biological activity. In general, conservative amino acid changes are preferred. Changes in amino acid residues will be made so as not to disrupt the cystine knot.and "bow tie" arrangement of loops in the growth factor domain that is characteristic of the protein family. Conserved motifs will also be maintained. The effects of amino acid sequence changes can be predicted by computer modeling as disclosed above or determined by analysis of crystal structure (see, e.g., Lapthorn et al., ibid.). A hydrophobicity profile of SEQ ID NO:2 is shown in Figs. 1A-1G. Those skilled in the art will recognize that this hydrophobicity will be taken into account when designing alterations in the amino acid sequence of a zvegf3 polypeptide, so as not to disrupt the overall profile. Additional guidance in selecting amino acid subsitutions is provided by the alignment of mouse and human zvegf3 sequences shown in Fig. 6.

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1, 2, and 33-45 without prejudice.

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and following remarks is requested. Claims 3, 11, 15, 17, 22, 25, 26, 28-32, and 46-59 are now in the case. Claims 1, 2, and 33-45 have been canceled solely to expedite prosecution of the remaining claims. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute claims to cancelled subject matter in one or more continuing applications.

The specification has been amended to conform to the numbering of the formal drawings that are being submitted herewith. No new matter has been added. Copies of the amended paragraphs, marked to show changes, are included in the Appendix.

The specification has also been amended to include a cross-reference to related provisional applications. Applicants have previously claimed priority from these applications, which claim has been acknowledged in Paper No. 11.